

## U6 Individual Project Voter Suppression-Literacy Test/Gerrymandering

Directions; Read and comply with all the directions on all the sheets.

Introduction, Read the following:

Gerrymandering Introduction;

Gerrymander is used to manipulate the boundaries of (an electoral constituency) so as to favor one party or class. Gerrymandering is illegal, unless it violates the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment which states “The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.”

Literacy Test Introduction

Prior to 1965 Literacy Tests were used and based on the idea that a person who wanted to vote should know and understand the political system that they were taking part in. Actually the test was used to deny people the right to vote. In 1965 The Voting Rights Act made Literacy Tests illegal-The Supreme Court said “nothing should stand in the way of a person’s right to vote”. Literacy Test were created to deny a certain group of people their right to vote. A written test that did not allow for any questions-made it difficult for people who had difficulty reading and writing to complete. Some groups were Grandfathered in, not having to take it, if their Great or Grandfather had voting prior to 1867 which would have been whites only. The Alabama Literacy Test of 1965 for people who have completed or are nearing completion of a course in government, may not be impossible to pass or complete, but most people who had to take this test had not this education advantage back in 1965 when the test was given.

There are Two Parts to this Assignment;

- Part One Gerrymandering
- Part Two 1965 Alabama Literacy Test (3 parts)
  - Part A; 1965 Literacy Test Answer Sheet
  - Part B: Unit 6 Literacy Test Fair/Unfair;

This is a project grade and the completed project is due by the end of the next class.

# Unit 6 Individual Project Part 1; Voter Suppression/Gerrymandering

Directions: Complete the following and attach to project for turn-in.

## Introduction:

Gerrymander is used to manipulate the boundaries of (an electoral constituency) so as to favor one party or class. Gerrymandering is illegal, unless it violates the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment which states “The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.”

Using the chart below to complete the assignment. Directions below.

R	R	B	B	B
R	R	B	B	B
R	R	B	B	B
R	R	B	B	B
R	R	B	B	B
R	R	B	B	B
R	R	B	B	B
R	R	B	B	B
R	R	B	B	B
R	R	B	B	B

- Above is the total population of place. 60% are B and 40% are R.
- You are the political leader of R which is in the minority and have been given the task of creating 5 voting districts for your government.
- You decide to Gerrymander the districts so that your party controls the majority of these 5 districts of your government.
- You must make every district the same size total 10-R or B's in each district.
- For each district you will draw lines around it and highlight using a color.
- Then if you were the leader of B how would you create the districts that maximize your party's power.
- What does this tell you about the principles of democracy and majority rules. Write a response below or on the back as to how you would accomplish this.

## Unit 6 Individual Project Part 2; 1965 Alabama Literacy Test

*Directions: There are two parts to this test. Write all answers to this test on the **Part A** Unit 6; 1965 Alabama Literacy Test; Answer Sheet (on the answer sheet. **Part B** will be completed on a separate sheet of paper. You are not allowed to ask questions about any questions on this test.*

1. Which of the following is a right guaranteed by the Bill of Rights? \_\_\_\_\_ Public Education \_\_\_\_\_ Employment  
\_\_\_\_\_ Trial by Jury \_\_\_\_\_ Voting
2. The federal census of population is taken every five years. \_\_\_\_\_ True \_\_\_\_\_ False
3. If a person is indicted for a crime, name two rights which he has. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. A U.S. senator elected at the general election in November takes office the following year on what date?
5. A President elected at the general election in November takes office on what date?
6. Which definition applies to the word "amendment?" \_\_\_\_\_ Proposed change, as in a Constitution \_\_\_\_\_ Make of peace between nationals at war \_\_\_\_\_ A part of the government
7. A person appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court is appointed for a term of \_\_\_\_\_
8. When the Constitution was approved by the original colonies, how many states had to ratify it in order for it to be in effect?
9. Does enumeration affect the income tax levied on citizens in various states?
10. Person opposed to swearing in an oath may say, instead: (solemnly) \_\_\_\_\_
11. To serve as President of the United States, a person must have attained: \_\_\_\_\_ 25 years of age \_\_\_\_\_ 35 years of age \_\_\_\_\_ 40 years of age \_\_\_\_\_ 45 years of age
12. What words are required by law to be on all coins and paper currency of the U.S.?
13. The Supreme Court is the chief lawmaking body of the state. \_\_\_\_\_ True \_\_\_\_\_ False
14. If a law passed by a state is contrary to provisions of the U.S. Constitution, which law prevails?
15. If a vacancy occurs in the U.S. Senate, the state must hold an election, but meanwhile the place may be filled by a temporary appointment made by \_\_\_\_\_
16. A U.S. senator is elected for a term of \_\_\_\_\_ years.
17. Appropriation of money for the armed services can be only for a period limited to \_\_\_\_\_ years.
18. The chief executive and the administrative offices make up the \_\_\_\_\_ branch of government.
19. Who passes laws dealing with piracy?
20. The number of representatives which a state is entitled to have in the House of Representatives is based on \_\_\_\_\_.
21. The Constitution protects an individual against punishments which are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
22. When a jury has heard and rendered a verdict in a case, and the judgment on the verdict has become final, the defendant cannot again be brought to trial for the same cause. \_\_\_\_\_ True \_\_\_\_\_ False
23. Name two levels of government which can levy taxes: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
24. Communism is the type of government in: \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_\_\_ Russia \_\_\_\_\_ England
25. Cases tried before a court of law are of two types, civil and \_\_\_\_\_.
26. By a majority vote of the members of Congress, the Congress can change provisions of the Constitution of the U.S. \_\_\_\_\_ True \_\_\_\_\_ False
27. For security, each state has a right to form a \_\_\_\_\_.
28. The electoral vote for President is counted in the presence of two bodies. Name them: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
29. If no candidate for President receives a majority of the electoral vote, who decides who will become President?
30. Of the original 13 states, the one with the largest representation in the first Congress was \_\_\_\_\_.
31. Of which branch of government is the Speaker of the House a part? \_\_\_\_\_ Executive \_\_\_\_\_ Legislative  
\_\_\_\_\_ Judicial
32. Capital punishment is the giving of a death sentence. \_\_\_\_\_ True \_\_\_\_\_ False
33. In case the President is unable to perform the duties of his office, who assumes them?
34. "Involuntary servitude" is permitted in the U.S. upon conviction of a crime. \_\_\_\_\_ True \_\_\_\_\_ False
35. If a state is a party to a case, the Constitution provides that original jurisdiction shall be in \_\_\_\_\_.

36. Congress passes laws regulating cases which are included in those over which the U.S. Supreme Court has \_\_\_\_\_ jurisdiction.
37. Which of the following is a right guaranteed by the Bill of Rights and the U.S. Constitution? \_\_\_\_\_Public Housing \_\_\_\_\_Education \_\_\_\_\_Voting \_\_\_\_\_Trial by Jury
38. The Legislatures of the states decide how presidential electors may be chosen. \_\_\_\_\_True \_\_\_\_\_False
39. If it were proposed to join Alabama and Mississippi to form one state, what groups would have to vote approval in order for this to be done?
40. The Vice President presides over \_\_\_\_\_.
41. The Constitution limits the size of the District of Columbia to \_\_\_\_\_.
42. The only laws which can be passed to apply to an area in a federal arsenal are those passed by \_\_\_\_\_ provided consent for the purchase of the land is given by the \_\_\_\_\_.
43. In which document or writing is the "Bill of Rights" found?
44. Of which branch of government is a Supreme Court justice a part? \_\_\_\_\_Executive \_\_\_\_\_Legislative \_\_\_\_\_Judicial
45. If no person receives a majority of the electoral votes, the Vice President is chosen by the Senate. \_\_\_\_\_True \_\_\_\_\_False
46. Name two things which the states are forbidden to do by the U.S. Constitution.
47. If election of the President becomes the duty of the U.S. House of Representatives and it fails to act, who becomes President and when?
48. How many votes must a person receive in order to become President if the election is decided by the U.S. House of Representatives? \_\_\_\_\_
49. How many states were required to approve the original Constitution in order for it to be in effect?
50. Check the offenses which, if you are convicted of them, disqualify you for voting: \_\_\_\_\_Murder \_\_\_\_\_Issuing worthless checks \_\_\_\_\_Petty larceny \_\_\_\_\_Manufacturing whiskey
51. The Congress decides in what manner states elect presidential electors. \_\_\_\_\_True \_\_\_\_\_False
52. Name two of the purposes of the U.S. Constitution.
53. Congress is composed of \_\_\_\_\_.
54. All legislative powers granted in the U.S. Constitution may legally be used only by \_\_\_\_\_.
55. The population census is required to be made every \_\_\_\_\_ years.
56. Impeachments of U.S. officials are tried by \_\_\_\_\_.
57. If an effort to impeach the President of the U.S. is made, who presides at the trial?
58. On the impeachment of the chief justice of the Supreme Court of the U.S., who tries the case?
59. Money is coined by order of: \_\_\_\_\_U.S. Congress \_\_\_\_\_The President's Cabinet \_\_\_\_\_State Legislatures
60. Persons elected to cast a state's vote for U.S. President and Vice President are called presidential \_\_\_\_\_.
61. Name one power, which is exclusively legislative, and is mentioned in one of the parts of the U.S. Constitution \_\_\_\_\_.
62. If a person flees from justice into another state, who has authority to ask for his return?
63. Whose duty is it to keep Congress informed of the state of the union?
64. If the two houses of Congress cannot agree on adjournment, who sets the time?
65. When presidential electors meet to cast ballots for President, must all electors in a state vote for the same person for President or can they vote for different persons if they so choose?
66. After the presidential electors have voted, to whom do they send the count of their votes?
67. The power to declare war is vested in \_\_\_\_\_.
68. Any power and rights not given to the U.S. or prohibited to the states by the U.S. Constitution are specified as belonging to whom?

# Unit 6 Part A; 1965 Alabama Literacy Test; Answer Sheet

Directions Part 1; Write Name, Date, and Class Period across the top. Write all test answers below.

1.	19.
2.	20.
3.	21.
4.	22.
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6.	24.
7.	25.
8.	26.
9.	27.
10.	28.
11.	29.
12.	30.
13.	31.
14.	32.
15.	33.
16.	34.
17.	35.

18.	36.
37.	53.
38.	54.
39.	55.
40.	56.
41.	57.
42.	58.
43.	59.
44.	60.
45.	61.
46.	62.
47.	63.
48.	64.
49.	65.
50.	66.
51.	67.
52.	68.